

RESOLUTION NO. 06-2007-01

CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR MICHIGAN STATE PARKS

**RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE A SERIES OF LEGISLATIVE BILLS DESIGNED TO CREATE
THE "GREAT LAKES STATE PARK"**

ADOPTED JUNE 13, 2007

WHEREAS, in 2005 the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks was formed to provide advice and guidance for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Parks and Recreation Division; and

WHEREAS, in Public Act 392 of 2004, which created the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks, it was stipulated that the committee should advise and make recommendations to the Governor, the Natural Resources Commission, and the Legislature on state parks policy and provide guidance on state park development, management and planning issues; and

WHEREAS, legislators from both the House and Senate have introduced a six bill, tie-barred package that would direct the DNR, Parks and Recreation Division to assume the responsibility to develop and administer the state-owned bottomlands of the Great Lakes as the "Great Lakes State Park"; and

WHEREAS, the bill package would create an advisory committee to oversee and guide the development of the Great Lakes State Park separate and apart from the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks; and

WHEREAS, the funding source for the development, marketing and administration of the Great Lakes State Park relies on the voluntary purchase of a \$15.00 permit; and

WHEREAS, the existing Great Lakes bottomlands are co-managed by the Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of History, Arts and Libraries providing sufficient regulatory and resource protection services that would be difficult for the DNR to match without a stable funding source.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks opposes the creation of another committee whose charge would be to advise the Parks and Recreation Division on park matters, deeming this proposed committee to be redundant; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks opposes a mandated program of this scope without first following standard protocol for establishing a state park, including funding necessary for that process.

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks strongly opposes the passage of Senate Bills 429, 430 and 431 as well as House Bills 4638, 4639 and 4640.

MOTIONED BY: Betsy Clark
SUPPORTED BY: Bill Rose

YEAS: 13
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 4

**This Resolution was adopted by the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks on
June 13, 2007.**